

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 101990
ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-14 OES-07 NSF-02 HEW-06
EB-08 EA-12 NASA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /074 R

DRAFTED BY COMM/NOAA/OA6:GDHUGHES
APPROVED BY IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK
COMM/NOAA/S25:FTKAHWAJY
COMM/NOAA/OA6:NEJOHNSON
EUR/WE:AHHUGHES

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R 210239Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS STATE 101990

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: U.S. COOPERATION WITH ESA METEOROLOGICAL
SATELLITE STATION VILLAFRANCA

1. THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION'S (WMO)
FIRST GLOBAL EXPERIMENT (FGGE) IS A LONG-PLANNED
INTERNATIONAL EFFORT SCHEDULED TO BE HELD DURING 1979
TO PROVIDE A COORDINATED INTENSIVE ANALYSIS OF THE WORLD'S
WEATHER. A MAJOR SOURCE OF DATA FOR THIS EXPERIMENT IS
A NETWORK OF FIVE SYNCHRONOUS SATELLITES SO PLACED TO
PROVIDE CONTINUOUS WEATHER COVERAGE AROUND THE
GLOBE. TWO SATELLITES ARE TO BE PROVIDED BY THE U.S.,
WHILE A SINGLE SATELLITE WAS TO BE SUPPLIED BY JAPAN,
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, AND THE USSR.

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2. THE U.S. WAS RECENTLY INFORMED BY THE WMO THAT THE
SATELLITE TO BE PROVIDED BY THE USSR AND LOCATED OVER
THE INDIAN OCEAN WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE IN TIME TO SUP-
PORT FGGE. SINCE THE LOSS OF THIS SATELLITE WOULD PRO-
DUCE A GAP IN COVERAGE WHICH COULD SERIOUSLY REDUCE THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS GLOBAL EXPERIMENT, BOTH THE
U.S. AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (VIA THE EUROPEAN SPACE

AGENCY (ESA)) WERE REQUESTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE WMO TO UNDERTAKE URGENT ACTION TO DEVELOP A CONTIN-

GENCY PLAN TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT OF THE LOSS OF THE USSR SATELLITE. THIS ACTION RESULTED IN A DECISION BY ESA AND THE U.S. TO PROVIDE A REPLACEMENT SATELLITE, LOCATED OVER THE INDIAN OCEAN.

3. THE SATELLITE COMMANDING AND DATA ACQUISITION WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED FROM A STATION LOCATED AT VILLAFRANCA, SPAIN. THE U.S. ACTIVITY IS PROVIDED BY A NOAA/NASA TEAM WITH LEAD RESPONSIBILITY ASSIGNED TO NOAA. THE U.S. CONTRACTORS INVOLVED, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES, ARE:

A. RF SYSTEMS, INC.: PROVISION AND INSTALLATION OF THE RECEPTION ANTENNA TO BE INSTALLED AT VILLAFRANCA, SPAIN.

B. SPACE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN: PROVISION OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT TO BE LOCATED AT VILLAFRANCA AND U.S. OPERATIONAL PROCESSING OF TAPES RECEIVED FROM THE VILLAFRANCA ACQUISITION.

C. WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC CORPORATION: PROVISION OF ALL EQUIPMENT FOR VILLAFRANCA (EXCEPT THAT CITED IN ITEMS A AND B ABOVE) AND OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SYSTEM ENGINEERING, INTEGRATION, AND TESTING OF THE U.S.-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT AT VILLAFRANCA.

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4. FUNDING RESPONSIBILITY FOR U.S. EFFORT IS SHARED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, NASA, AND NOAA. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT IS BY NOAA.

5. IT IS PLANNED THAT OPERATION WILL CONTINUE FOR ONE YEAR. AFTER COMPLETION, THE SYSTEM WILL BE DISMANTLED AND U.S.-PROVIDED EQUIPMENT WILL BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES.

6. OTHER THAN CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION, U.S. ACTIVITIES WILL CONSIST ONLY OF PROVIDING THE EQUIPMENT TO BE LOCATED AT VILLAFRANCA. THIS EQUIPMENT WILL BE A 13-METER DIAMETER ANTENNA AND TWO 8 X 28 FOOT VANS. EACH VAN WILL CONTAIN ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL HAVE BEEN TESTED AND INTEGRATED PRIOR TO SHIPMENT. ON-SITE EFFORTS WILL INVOLVE INTEGRATION OF THE VANS WITH THE ANTENNA AND ESA-PROVIDED FACILITIES.

7. ESA WILL MAKE CUSTOMS ARRANGEMENTS AND PROVIDE LOCAL TRANSPORTATION OF THE EQUIPMENT TO THE SITE.

8. TRANSPORTATION OF THE EQUIPMENT TO SPAIN WILL BE VIA

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT.

9. U.S. PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT IN EUROPE WILL INCLUDE
SEVERAL COORDINATION MEETINGS, PROBABLY HELD AT EITHER

DARMSTADT, GERMANY, OR VILLAFRANCA, SPAIN. APPROXIMATELY
TEN U.S. GOVERNMENT AND CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL WILL BE IN
VILLAFRANCA FOR THE EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION ACTIVITIES,
WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED DECEMBER 1, 1978.
AFTER THAT DATE OPERATIONS WILL BE PERFORMED BY ESA
PERSONNEL WITH NO ANTICIPATED U.S. PERSONNEL INVOLVEMENT
UNTIL THE DISMANTLING PROCESS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 1979.

10. A TEAM OF EXPERTS WILL VISIT DARMSTADT, GERMANY
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ON MAY 8 AND IS SCHEDULED TO BE IN MADRID MAY 10-12.
THIS GROUP WILL BE HEADED BY E. L. HEACOCK OF NOAA. HE
WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY F. KAHWAJY, E. BISONI, P. EYELE-
SHEIMER, AND J. URION, ALL OF NOAA; J. LAHZUN, NASA;
AND D. RAU, WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC. MR. HEACOCK WOULD
BE PLEASED TO ARRANGE A BRIEFING FOR EMBASSY OFFICIALS
IF THEY SO DESIRE. FOR THE TIME BEING, NOAA IS NOT
AWARE OF ANY PROBLEMS OR OF REQUIREMENTS FOR ASSISTANCE
FROM THE EMBASSY. CHRISTOPHER

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ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 /023 R

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 101990 ACTION MADRID INFO PARIS
BONN DATED APR 21:

QTE:UNCLAS STATE 101990

E.O. 11652: N/A

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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TAGS: TSPA, TGEN, US, SP, WMO
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